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Policies and Procedures Minutes 09/12/2012

Policies and Procedures Subcommittee, Arlington School Committee

School Committee Room – September 12, 2012 – 8:00 p.m.

APPROVED Minutes

In Attendance:

Subcommittee Members: Judson L. Pierce-Chair
 Jeffrey Thielman
 Cindy Starks

Superintendent: Dr. Kathleen Bodie

School Committee Member: William Hayner

Public: Marc Rosenthal

A motion to approve the subcommittee minutes of 9/5/12 made by Ms. Starks, seconded by Mr. Thielman, passed 3-0.

The Subcommittee discussed MA-CHPS ENERGY STAR resolution and Mr. Pierce moved *That the School Committee pass a resolution to require that the Arlington Public Schools requires ENERGY STAR equipment and appliances, where available, for all new purchases for the school and to prohibit the purchase of low efficiency products, including halogen torchieres, and portable electrical resistance heaters.*

Seconded by Mr. Thielman. Motion carried 3-0.

The Subcommittee discussed Overarching Goals of the Arlington Public Schools, file to be called BA-E. Mr. Thielman added the language "The goals shall be revised from time to time by the School Committee to reflect the changing strategies of the Arlington Public Schools."

Ms. Starks moved to approve for first read by the School Committee on Thursday night 9/13/12, Seconded by Mr. Thielman. Motion carried 3-0.

The Subcommittee discussed Ms. Starks' revisions to File FA/FB/FBB-Facilities Planning Enrollment Projections. Ms. Starks noted that she and Dr. Bodie went over these changes together and felt that March of each year would be a reasonable time for projections to be reported. The revised policy also takes in to account that the number of classrooms in our elementary schools is variable year to year and that capacity numbers for all 7 elementary schools will be computed and reported to the school committee in April of each year. Mr. Pierce moved to recommend to the full School Committee for first read on Thursday night 9/13/12, Seconded by Ms. Starks. Motion carried 3-0.

The Subcommittee discussed Mr. Pierce's revisions to Files JC-Assignment of Schools, Buffer Zones, and Open Enrollment and newly created JC-E-Guidelines for Buffer Zones and Open Enrollment. Mr. Rosenthal suggested that more notification be given whenever district lines change perhaps listing The Advocate or the Arlington List as methods to accomplish this. The subcommittee revised the second paragraph of File JC to reflect this by stating "The Committee will confer with the community prior to setting new attendance lines, taking active steps to ensure that all stakeholders and residents are informed and notified."

Mr. Rosenthal also suggested that the Superintendent report annually on how the policy is working, what impact it is having on buffer zones and on families and students. Mr. Rosenthal asked for specific detailed requests to be placed in to the policy. The Subcommittee disagreed, feeling that the School Committee members themselves will ask for whatever information they feel is missing from the Superintendent's presentation that will more fully inform them and the public on the impact of the buffer zones. The Subcommittee after much back and forth came to this language: "The following areas, described in the attached map, are designated as Buffer zones, subject to annual review by the Superintendent of Schools and the School Committee. Each year, by the first meeting in October, the Superintendent will report to the School Committee on the assignment of students and will report on the implementation of this policy." Mr. Thielman

moved to forward File JC to the full School Committee for first read on September 13, 2012. Seconded by Ms. Starks. Motion carried 3-0. Ms. Starks moved to forward JC-E to the full School Committee for first read on Thursday September 13, 2012. Seconded by Mr. Pierce. Motion carried 3-0.

At the last meeting of the full School Committee, the School Committee directed the Policies and Procedures Subcommittee to examine file CBI and report back an answer by September 13th regarding the time frame used in evaluating the Superintendent.

The Policies and Procedures Subcommittee discussed File CBI and focused on what the time line is to be used in evaluating the Superintendent. "It is our consensus opinion that the School Committee will be evaluating Dr. Bodie based upon the 2011-2012 school year taking into account any and all evidence at all times. Members are within their rights to use further information that becomes available between July and the time of the evaluation as the evaluation is based upon goals but also core competencies."

Mr. Pierce discussed meeting again in the near future concerning the health/nutrition/food new guidelines and policy revision that may be required. Dr. Bodie recommended waiting for Ms. Bouvier, as well as the Commonwealth, to further address this and give us more information on the topic as these changes do not have to happen right away.

Mr. Thielman moved to adjourn at 9:20p.m., seconded by Ms. Starks. Motion passed 3-0.